GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2264
ANSWERED ON:17.03.2005
PERSONNEL DIED DUE TO SNOW STORM
Yadav Shri Parasnath

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of army personnel died due to snow-storm in Kashmir recently; and

(b) the steps taken by the Government to provide financial assistance/compensation to the deceased families?

Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE)

(a) Three army personnel died in Jammu and Kashmir due to avalanches and snow storm in February, 2005.

(b) A comprehensive welfare package has been worked out and implemented for the next of kin/families of all soldiers who die in harness. This includes pensionary benefits, Ex-Gratia grant from Army Central Welfare Fund (ACWF), Army Wives Welfare Association (AWWA) and Army Officers Benevolent Fund. Further, Insurance cover is also available under the Army Group Insurance Fund. Financial assistance from the Army Central Welfare Fund and Army Wives Welfare Association amounting to Rs. 30,000 and Rs. 5000 has since been paid to the next of kin of each deceased personnel. Immediate relief from the Regimental Fund has also been paid.